monsoon rainfall activity prognosis in India through diagnostic and modelling efforts. The actual rainfall over any region however depends on the local conditions and factors.

(c) Extensive and continuous R and D efforts are pursued by the various groups, both within the institutions of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) and outside MoES, to understand and continuously improve the prediction tools of summer monsoon rainfall activity.

Tsunami research centre

2345. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:
SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has any proposal to set up a prestigious tsunami research centre in Gajulararamaram in Ranga Reddy district in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and present position thereof;

(c) the funds allocated and spent so far for this project; and

(d) if not, by when such proposal will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has already established a state of the art National Tsunami Warning Centre (NTWC) at the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), at Gajulararamaram, Ranga Reddy District, Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The NTWC at INCOIS has been operational since 15th Oct., 2007 with the state-of-the-art facilities. All the necessary computational and communication infrastructure-that enables reception of real-time data from all the sensors, analysis of the data, generation and dissemination of tsunami advisories following a standard operating procedure-have been put in place. It operates on 24x7 basis and monitors the seismic activity in known tsunamigenic source regions of Indian Ocean as well as the real time water level observations from Bottom Pressure Recorders (BPR) and Tide Gauges for detecting the significant changes in water levels. The centre is equipped for reception of real time seismic and water level changes data from various national and international stations.

Whenever an earthquake of magnitude >6.5 on Richter scale occurs in the Indian Ocean, the centre issues the earthquake information within 10-15 minutes indicating the Tsunamigenic potential qualitatively, and issues tsunami bulletins (Warning/Alert/Watch/All Clear) within 30 minutes to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) based on the proximity of the region to the earth quake location. These messages are followed up by an upgrade message or a cancellation message based on the water level information from BPR's and Tide Gauges with the timelines depending on the availability time of water level observations. The advisory messages from warning center are disseminated as per the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) by means of various communication modes such as dedicated telephone lines, fax, Virtual Private Network-disaster Management Support (VPN-DMS) etc.

(c) Total funds allocated for the Centre is Rs.88.55 crores out of which Rs.61.18 crores have been spent so far.

(d) Does not arise.

Review of non-gainful treaties

2346. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand to review and revise treaties which are not economically gainful to India;

(b) whether it is a fact that India is a signatory to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission;

(c) if so, whether it is a fact that this commission is dominated by European countries and the USA; and

(d) the steps that would be taken to review this treaty which is of little benefit to India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): (a) Government of India constantly reviews the usefulness of the treaties it has entered into and takes necessary measures as and when required.

(b) Yes. India is a Member of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) since 13 March, 1995.

(c) No. European Community, France and United Kingdom are the only three members from Europe among the twenty eight members of IOTC while the USA is not a member of IOTC.

(d) Performance of the IOTC has been recently reviewed by a Performance Review Panel constituted by IOTC. India has been one of the six member countries included in the performance Review Panel.

Lapses in issue of visa

2347. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Consulate flouted rules for Rana's visa;

(b) if so, whether gaps of visas issued to Pakistan-Canadian Rana and a woman Samraz Rana Akhtar and both were issued multiple entry visas by the Indian consulate in October, 2008; and

(c) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted about the lapses and the steps that are being taken to further scrutinize visas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (c) Tahawwur Rana Hussain, Canadian national of Pak